

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-06

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R 251830Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2150

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 KINGSTON 2150/1

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LIMDIS

FOR SCHLAUDMAN FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: AID, PFOR, JA

SUBJECT: INTER-AMERICAN FOUNDATION ACTIVITIES

REFERENCE: A. MY APRIL 2 LETTER TO ASST. SECRETARY ROGERS

B. APRIL 23 MEMCON BETWEEN DCM DORRANCE AND RICHARD
FLETCHER ON IAF GRANT TO SWCC (AVAILABLE ARA/CAR)

1. ROSS COGGINS, CARIBBEAN REGIONAL DIRECTOR, AND STEVE VETTER
OF SUBJECT FOUNDATION CALLED ON ME AUGUST 20. THEY ADVISED THAT
THEY HAD CALLED ON MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE BELANFANTI AUGUST 19
TO DISCUSS POSSIBILITY OF FURTHER GRANT TO SWCC (REF (A) AND
(B)).

2. MR RESERVATIONS ON U.S. GRANTS TO THIS ORGANIZATION
REF (A) HAD PREVIOUSLY BEEN CONVEYED TO MR. VETTER. HE
HAD ASSURED ME THERE WOULD BE NO CONSIDERATION OF FURTHER
GRANT THIS ACTIVITY UNTIL FULL CONSIDERATION BY IAF BOARD
AT WHICH TIME STATE WOULD HAVE AN INPUT THROUGH ITS STATE
BOARD MEMBERS, INCLUDING BILL ROGERS.

3. REB (B) PROVIDES ADDITIONAL GROUNDS MY RESERVATIONS.
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THE PRIME MINISTER HAS RAISED SIMILAR CONCERNS TO ME.
AS DEPARTMENT WELL AWARE POLITICAL SITUATION HERE IS
UNCERTAIN AT BEST, ACCUSATIONS OF CIA ACTIVITY ARE
RAMPANT AND APPROACHING PARANOIA AT ALL LEVELS OF GOJ

DESPITE ALL OUR ASSURANCES, AND I AM BEING CONTINUALLY ASKED WHETHER I AM AWARE OF ALL USG ACTIVITIES IN JAMAICA. MY REPLY HAS ALWAYS BEEN IN AFFIRMATIVE, RELYING ON ASSURANCES GIVEN ME. THERE ARE INEVITABLY GAPS IN MY AWARENESS, SUCH AS INPUTS BY ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES SUCH AS CUSTOMS, DEA, IRS AND OTHERS, OWING TO PROXIMITY OF U.S., BUT I DO NOT CONSIDER THOSE USUALLY CRUCIAL, AND WE ARE MAKING EVERY EFFORT TO KEEP THEM IN PROPER CHANNELS.

4. IN THE CASE OF IAF INVOLVEMENT I CANNOT REPEAT CANNOT ANSWER IN THE AFFIRMATIVE AND AM SERIOUSLY CONCERNED BY THE ATTITUDE OF ITS REPRESENTATIVES, WHICH IS UNCOOPERATIVE AND SECRETIVE AT BEST. THEY SEEM TO TAKE THE POSITION THAT THEY ARE A COMPLETELY INDEPENDENT AGENCY AND THAT I HAVE NO RESPONSIBILITY FOR OR CONTROL OF THEIR ACTIVITIES HERE WHATSOEVER.

5. THEY FURTHER INDICATE THAT THE ONLY CONTACT WITH STATE IS THROUGH THE GOVERNING BOARD OF IAF, BUT ALSO INFORMED ME THAT THERE HAS BEEN NO MEETING OF THE BOARD SINCE THEIR PREVIOUS VISIT THIS PAST SPRING.

6. THEY NOW INFORM ME THAT THE FOLLOWING GRANTS ARE UNDER ACTIVE CONSIDERATION FOR JAMAICA.

A. ORGANIZATION OF CARIBBEAN BAR ASSOCIATION: APPROXIMATELY J\$300,000, PRIMARILY FOR REGIONAL ASSISTANCE TO SUPPORT LEGAL AID CLINICS FOR THE POOR. (RONALD THWAITES (SEE REF A) IS CONNECTED WITH THIS GROUP.)

B. ASSOCIATION OF CARIBBEAN UNIVERSITIES AND RESEARCH INSTITUTES: J\$100,000 PREVIOUSLY GRANTED TO ESTABLISH "FLOW STATIONS" THROUGHOUT THE CARIBBEAN FOR COLLECTION AND DISSEMINATION OF INFORMATION TO SUPPORT DEVELOPMENT RESEARCH. "EXTENSION" OF THIS GRANT BEING CONSIDERED.

C. MYSTIC REVELATIONS OF RASTAFARI COOPERATIVE, LTD: UNDER-CONFIDENTIAL

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STAND REQUEST FOR J\$200,000 GRANT FOR RECORDING STUDIO TURNED DOWN BUT THAT J\$2,750 ALREADY GRANTED FOR TRAINING FOR OFFICE STAFF, AND A FURTHER GRANT FOR UNKNOWN AMOUNT FOR MATERIAL INSTRUMENTS BEING REVIEWED.

D. SUGAR WORKERS COOPERATIVE COUNCIL (SWCC): J\$200,000 GRANT UNDER CONSIDERATION WHICH WOULD BE FUNNELED THROUGH SOCIAL ACTION CENTER. (THIS WAS PROJECT DISCUSSED WITH AGRICULTURE MINISTER BELANFANTI AND SWCC IS THE OUTFIT WHICH HAS BEEN OF CONCERN TO GOJ. MINISTER BELANFANTI, ACCORDING TO VETTER AND COGGINS, WAS NON COMMITAL IN TERMS GOJ ATTITUDE TOWARD PROJECT.)

E. MINISTER OF HOUSING, ANTHONY SPAULDING, HAS REQUESTED IAF TO CONSIDER FUNDING A COOPERATIVE SUPERMARKET IN TRENCH TOWN ARE OF KINGSTON. COST UNKNOWN BUT WOULD BE IN EXCESS OF J\$100,000. IAF HAS ALREADY TURNED DOWN A PREVIOUS SPAULDING PROPOSAL FOR A SPORTS ARENA IN THE SAME AREA.

F. IAF IS PROVIDING A GRANT TO SUPPORT REX NETTLEFORD FOR APPROXIMATELY ONE MONTH OF CONSULTATIONS WITH IAF THIS SEPTEMBER IN WASHINGTON. NETTLEFORD IS PROFESSOR AT TRADE UNION INSTITUTE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF WEST INDIES, AND ACTIVE IN VARIOUS SOCIAL ACTION PROGRAMS. HE IS LEFTIST, AND NOT A FRIEND OF THE U.S. -- THOUGH LESS RADICAL THAN SOME ADVISORS SURROUNDING PRIME MINISTER MANLEY.

G. INSTITUTE OF SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC RESEARCH, UNIVERSITY OF THE WEST INDIES: J\$500,000 FOR PHYSICAL PLANT AND OTHER SUPPORT. SOME OF THIS FUNDING APPARENTLY HAS ALREADY BEEN PROVIDED; NOT CLEAR HOW MUCH ADDITIONAL TO BE MADE AVAILABLE FROM THIS OR FURTHER FUNDING.

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